

I would note that recently in the House hate crimes legislation was passed in a bipartisan vote. I strongly believe that we must also move similar legislation in the Senate. In the months ahead, I look forward to working with Senator KENNEDY as we continue our work in passing a hate crimes bill.

IN HONOR OF FORMER SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor our former colleague Claiborne Pell, with whom I had the pleasure of serving in this body for 16 years.

I have always felt a special affinity for Senator Pell. Both of our fathers served in Congress. We represented neighboring States in the Northeast. We sat together on three committees and share many of the same views and principles about our great Nation and its role in the world. And, he was one of the few Senators who served with both my father and me. So it is with great personal pleasure that I come to the floor to honor him today.

Senator Pell accomplished important things during his Senate career, each one of which could have defined a successful tenure for any one Senator. He created a Federal college scholarship initiative—later to be named the “Pell Grant” in his honor. This initiative has opened the doors of our colleges and universities to millions of American students. He coauthored legislation to establish the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, both of which have enriched the cultural life of our Nation. He helped to establish the Northeast rail corridor. And he was a chief architect of the ban on nuclear testing on the ocean floor.

Throughout 36 years of service, Senator Pell left a graceful and indelible legacy. His commitment to education, the arts and humanities, and peace was an attempt to cultivate the best in all of us. And we have advanced as a nation in part because of his dedication to these ideals and his success in codifying them.

Almost as admirable as his legislative accomplishments was the manner in which he legislated. In the 16 years that I served alongside Senator Pell, even when he was the ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee under the chairmanship of a hard-charging Senator from the other end of the political spectrum, I never saw him speak or act with anything but kindness and integrity. In the course of six elections to the U.S. Senate, Senator Pell never once attacked a political opponent who ran against him. He was a true gentleman. He always sought out the better nature of people through discussion and debate. He held immense respect for the history of the Senate and the vocation of public service. He was the model of what a leader should be.

Paying tribute to his tremendous career is reason enough to come to the floor today, but I have also come to speak on a more timely matter. Senator Pell is to be recognized this Friday by a regimental review at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in Connecticut.

Senator Pell served in the Coast Guard for 37 years, enlisting 4 months before the attacks on Pearl Harbor. He began as a ship's cook, but quickly received his commission and served as a lieutenant on boats in the North Atlantic and Sicily. During World War II, he was arrested six times by enemy governments. After the war ended, he served as a captain in the Reserves until he reached the mandatory retirement age.

Senator Pell frequently cited his service as one of the defining moments in his life. He has always been an ardent supporter of the Coast Guard—believing, as I do, that it plays a vital role in keeping America safe. As the Coast Guard honors Senator Pell's service this week, it is important that we remember the Coast Guard personnel who continue to risk their lives to maintain the safety and security of our Nation.

Over the past few weeks, Coast Guard crews, operating with characteristic precision and professionalism, have rescued over 33,000 people in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. They have spent significant sums to do so—sums that were never contemplated to be spent for this purpose. Regrettably, however, none of the over \$60 billion in aid that Congress recently sent to the Gulf coast region has been specifically set aside to replenish Coast Guard accounts. Their costs in both operations and reconstruction are estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars. They are being forced to divert funds from continuing and future operations.

The men and women of today's Coast Guard are certainly vindicating Senator Pell's faith in and commitment to this branch of our military. By honoring their service—including by seeing to it that Coast Guard operations are fully supported by our Government—we honor the service of an outstanding leader, a great patriot, and a dear friend: Claiborne Pell. I wish him, his wife Nuala, and his family my best wishes on this wonderful occasion.

PAUL BRUHN: PRESERVING VERMONT FOR ALL GENERATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure today to congratulate Paul Bruhn and the Preservation Trust of Vermont on an anniversary that marks 25 successful years of protecting and celebrating Vermont's historical treasures.

I am proud to be able to call Paul not only an accomplished Vermonter but also a very good friend. He was my first campaign manager and my first chief of staff, and the Preservation Trust of Vermont is only one of his significant gifts to the Green Mountain State.

Paul became the founding executive director of the Preservation Trust of Vermont in 1980, after helping me find my way through the Senate during my first term. Since then he has helped the Preservation Trust save countless architectural treasures in every corner of the State, helped reinvent communities that had eroded through years of neglect, and helped our State capitalize on its unique identity. Thanks in large part to his leadership, the Preservation Trust of Vermont has been a respected, appreciated, and integral part of Vermont's culture for the past quarter century.

My wife Marcelle and I consider ourselves highly fortunate to call Paul a close personal friend. Before my campaign in 1974, we saw in Paul attributes that we knew would bring Vermont wonderful things. As the consummate connector, Paul has been a humble servant of the public interest, forging and leading broad community coalitions to overcome some of the most difficult growing pains of development—retaining a community's character. He has used these talents to bring attention to and preserve the most unique and defining aspects of Vermont. From making sure Vermont music legend Sterling Weed had a band stand, to bringing attention to the wonderful architecture at the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, he has helped Vermonters embrace their unique spirit and storied history.

Paul has always understood that a community's future vitality is directly linked to its past. When the city of Burlington was preparing to level the historic firehouse on Church Street—one of the most beautiful and unique buildings in the city—it was Paul who convinced me to open my first Senate office there to save the building from the wrecking ball. Years later, as historic downtowns across the country were being shuttered and demolished because of urban sprawl, Paul helped me work with local and State officials to find millions of dollars in Federal investments to revolutionize Burlington's historic center of commerce, turning Church Street into an award-winning pedestrian marketplace. Today the historic facades that have hung over Church Street for a century or more remind shoppers of Burlington's rich history.

There is hardly a nook or cranny, village or gore, throughout Vermont that has not felt the touch of Paul and the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Whether through a small Preservation Trust grant for the refinishing of a church tower, or through a multimillion dollar campaign led by Paul and the talented people he works with, every corner of the State from Burke to Bennington has benefited from Paul's community- and consensus-building.

Just last year, this native Vermonter was at the heart of an effort to have the entire State of Vermont designated as one of the top 10 endangered places by the National Preservation Trust. It

was the first time in the organization's history that an entire State was added to the list. He helped the city of Rutland persuade Wal-Mart to anchor in the community's historic downtown instead of outside of town in a vacant field, a victory that few other communities across the country have won. That was not enough though, and he has brought Rutland's story to other communities throughout the State, where no matter the outcome, he has helped empower community leaders to make decisions rather than bow to the whims of out-of-state developers.

In my lifetime of public service, I have never met a person so adept at bringing people together and finding ways to make sure everyone has a voice. Years before he came to work for me, Paul was a key player in setting up the consumer fraud office within the Vermont attorney general's office, where he not only protected consumer rights, but also helped the office create a toll-free number that revolutionized the way Vermonters communicated with their government. When I entered the Senate, Paul and I brought this concept to the greatest deliberative body in the Senate by operating the first toll-free phone line in the Congress.

Paul has always put the interests of all Vermonters ahead of himself or any organization he has ever steered. The Preservation Trust of Vermont has been no different. Through his involvement, Vermont is a better place and Vermonters have realized the wonderful things our past has to offer. Thank you Paul, and congratulations to you and everyone who has ever helped make the Preservation Trust of Vermont the success it is today.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT CHARLES T. DUBOIS

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a man who has served over 36 years in the U.S. Air Force, with the vast majority of that service in the Missouri Air National Guard. CMSgt Charles T. DuBois retired on September 10, 2005, after a long and distinguished record of service to the State of Missouri and the United States. Chief DuBois enlisted in the U.S. Air Force on June 18, 1969, at the height of the Vietnam War. He served in the Air Force until March 12, 1973, and entered the Air National Guard on September 14, 1975.

As a member of the 131st Fighter Wing in St. Louis, MO, Chief DuBois has been associated with a unit whose history has spanned over eight decades and whose former members have included the likes of aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh.

Throughout Chief DuBois' service at the 131st, he has seen the unit transition from F-100s to F-4 Phantoms to F-15As, and now upon his retirement, the

transition to F-15Cs, the Nation's premier homeland defense and air superiority aircraft. As a crew chief, Chief DuBois was fully qualified on: the B-52D; C-141A; C-124; C-5A; F-100 C, D & F; F-4 C, D & E; and the F-15 A, B, C, and D models.

Throughout his career Chief DuBois remained dedicated concomitantly to the vital missions of the Air National Guard and to the paramount commitment of taking care of his family. It is the latter that Chief DuBois will continue to fulfill upon his retirement as a devoted husband, father and son. He and his wife Theresa were married in November of 1977 and have one son, Michael, who serves on my staff as an advisor on, among a number of other issues, the National Guard. Chief DuBois has one daughter, Kristine, who lives and works in northern Virginia. As a dedicated son of someone whom I have had the pleasure and honor to work with when I was Governor of Missouri, GEN Charles H. DuBois and his wife Ruth, "Terry" as Chief DuBois goes by in civilian life, remains dedicated to their well-being. The General, or "Charlie Two Stars" as I often referred to him, and his lovely wife Ruth, can rest assured they raised a son who has served both his family and the military with honor.

The honor in which Chief DuBois has served can be seen in the numerous awards, ribbons and commendations he has been decorated with throughout his career. He has received the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with two devices, the Air Force Achievement Medal with one device, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award for 2 AEF duty tours in Provide Comfort and Northern Watch, and the National Defense Service Medal with two devices for his service during Vietnam and Desert Storm. These accolades represent only a handful of the numerous other State and Federal service medals Chief DuBois has collected during his 36 years of service. As Chief DuBois retired, he was the most senior chief master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard and was the youngest guardsman to make chief when he did so, just like his father who, upon his retirement, was the most senior major general in the Air Force and Air Guard and the youngest at the time to make general.

Again, I wish to extend Chief Charles T. DuBois my heartiest congratulations upon his retirement and my sincere thanks for the 35-plus years of service he has rendered to the State of Missouri and the Nation.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALEXANDER, NORTH DAKOTA

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th anniversary. On September 2 through September 5, the residents of Alexander, ND, celebrated their community's history and founding.

Alexander is a small town in the northwestern part of North Dakota with a population of 216. Despite its size, Alexander holds an important place within North Dakota's history. It began on July 24, 1905, when the city was platted by Frank B. Chapman. That same year, a wide variety of businesses were constructed in the town, including the Dakota Trading Company Store, the Alexander State Bank, and the Alexander Hotel. Later that year, the McKenzie County Chronicle began publication in an office of the Alexander State Bank. In 1918, the town suffered a devastating fire; however, the town rebuilt and continued to grow.

Today, Alexander remains a proud community with an economy bolstered by farming, ranching, and oil extraction. In the city's park, hamburgers are served every summer Saturday evening. The town is also home to the Lewis and Clark Trail Museum, which is housed in the old school house. Each room in the museum highlights a different and unique view of the area's history.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Alexander, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century. I believe that by honoring Alexander and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is such places as Alexander that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this community is deserving of our recognition.

Alexander has a proud past and a bright future.●

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF GALE REINERS

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Gale Reinners for his 35 years of service to the Department of Veterans' Affairs. When he retires later this month, Mr. Reinners will have served his country for almost 40 years, both in the military and through his public service on behalf of our Nation's veterans.

During his tenure at the Regional VA Office in Sioux Falls, Gale provided important counsel and advice to veterans, family members, VA officials, veterans' service officers, and congressional members and their staff on a range of issues. Throughout that time, he has witnessed many changes in the VA, and has been diligent in assisting veterans with their questions, needs and issues. He has helped educate all those concerned about the ever-changing scope of the veterans' benefits program.

Gale wanted to retire 18 months ago but was persuaded to continue his duties at the VA. At the time he announced his retirement, the VA regional offices in North Dakota and South Dakota were working to combine various veterans' services. Gale's